

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KUALA 01289 081139Z

47

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

OMB-01 ACDA-05 /073 W

----- 040807

R 080900Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2684

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 1289

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MY ASEAN

SUBJ: PM HUSSEIN SPEAKS UP ON HANOI CHARGES

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 1230 (DTG 050240Z MAR 76)

1. SUMMARY. CONTINUING IN SAME RATHER CONCILIATORY VEIN NOTED REFTTEL, PM HUSSEIN MARCH 7 EXPRESSED "GREAT CONCERN AND DEEP REGRET" OVER HANOI'S CHARGE THAT ASEAN IS AN AMERICAN TOOL. PM SAID THAT MALAYSIANS SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY BECAUSE HANOI'S INTERESTS ARE STILL UNCLEAR; HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF FOREIGN POWERS WERE GIVING FINANCIAL AND MORAL SUPPORT TO COMMUNISTS IN MALAYSIA, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF OUTSIDE ARMS ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. CONCLUDING A TWO-DAY VISIT TO PERAK MARCH 7, PRIME  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KUALA 01289 081139Z

MINISTER HUSSEIN ONN IN AN IPOH PRESS CONFERENCE

MADE HIS FIRST PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE RECENT ATTACKS BY HANOI ON THE NON-COMMUNIST STATES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. EXPRESSING "GREAT CONCERN AND DEEP REGRET" OVER HANOI'S ACCUSATION THAT ASEAN IS AN ASSOCIATION OF NEO-COLONIALISTS SPONSORED BY THE U.S., HUSSEIN NOTED THAT ASEAN WAS FORMED SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE THE RECENT CHANGES IN INDOCHINA AND, "THEREFORE IT IS NOT PROPER FOR HANOI TO CONSTRUE THAT ASEAN IS A GROUP FORMED TO FIGHT AGAINST OTHER GROUPS OR COUNTRIES. ASEAN BELIEVES IN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION AND WE WILL NEVER INTERVENE IN THE AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER PARTY."

3. COMMENTING ON THE HANOI CALL FOR INSURGENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TO STEP UP THEIR ARMED STRUGGLES, HUSSEIN SAID: "I AM SURE THE HANOI GOVERNMENT DOES NOT LIKE ARMED STRUGGLE TO BE ENCOURAGED IN ITS COUNTRY SO NEITHER DO ASEAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY MALAYSIA." IT IS "MOST REGRETTABLE" THAT HANOI FEELS IT CAN ENCOURAGE INSURGENCY IN OTHER COUNTRIES. HE CONTINUED: "WE HAVE GOT TO BE PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY FOR WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE INTERESTS OF THE INDOCHINA STATES, ESPECIALLY HANOI, WILL BE." HUSSEIN SAID HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THERE WERE FOREIGN POWERS GIVING FINANCIAL AND MORAL ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMUNIST TERRORIST MOVEMENT IN MALAYSIA. "BUT I AM NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THERE ARE FOREIGN POWERS GIVING ARMS ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT HERE BECAUSE WE DO NOT HAVE EVIDENCE ABOUT IT."

4. COMMENT: WHILE TAKING A LESS HOPEFUL STAND THAN FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN DID ON THIS SUBJECT LAST WEEK (REFTEL), HUSSEIN, IN PUBLIC AT LEAST, SEEMS TO GIVE HANOI THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, FOLLOWING THE STANDARD GOM LINE OF NOT WISHING TO CLOSE ANY DOORS. UNDERHILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976KUALA01289  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760087-0287  
**From:** KUALA LUMPUR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760385/aaaacwve.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 KUALA LUMPUR 1230  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <14 JUL 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PM HUSSEIN SPEAKS UP ON HANOI CHARGES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MY, VN, ASEAN, (HUSSEIN BIN ONN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006